

Attorney Docket No.: MDSP-P02-180

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 14, and 43-50 constitute the pending claims in the present application.

During an interview with the Examiner on February 11, 2004, the Examiner has indicated that Applicants' argument advanced in the previous response was persuasive. The Examiner also suggests that Applicants amend claim 1 to clarify the subject matter claimed.

Applicants have adopted the Examiner's suggestion, and amended claim 1 to clarify the subject matter claimed. Applicants submit that the amendment is supported throughout the specification, and that the amendment does not narrow the scope in any respect.

Applicants wish to express their gratitude to the Examiner for her constructive suggestions throughout the prosecution of the instant application.

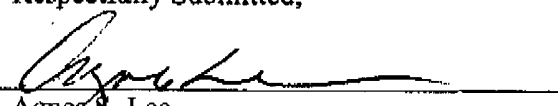
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited. The Examiner may address any questions raised by this submission to the undersigned at 617-951-7000. Should an extension of time be required, Applicants hereby petition for same and request that the extension fee and any other fee required for timely consideration of this submission be charged to **Deposit Account No. 18-1945**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: February 11, 2004

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